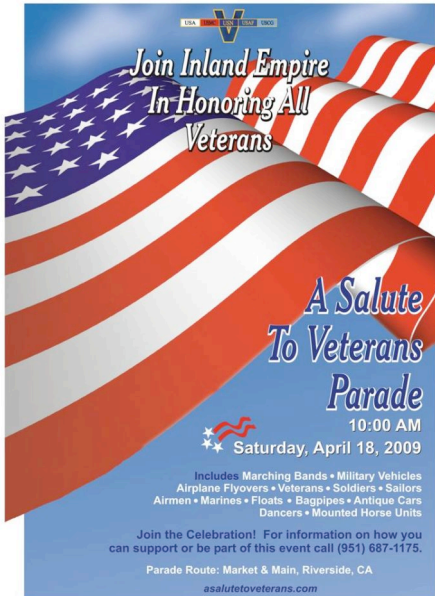




Interim Fire Chief Steve  
Earley  
3085 St. Lawrence Ave  
Riverside CA 92504  
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[www.riversideca.gov/fire](http://www.riversideca.gov/fire)



April 2009



## Veterans Parade

RFD apparatus, crews, and Honor Guard participated in the annual Veteran's Parade on Saturday April 18. The truck company and new heavy rescue unit from the Magnolia Center Fire Station drove the parade route. RFD Honor Guard and the UCR Drum and Pipe Band also performed in the parade. Thanks to all who took part in this event.





**Jackie Gilstrap of Loma Linda University Health Services and the Junior League of Riverside on April 3:** Jackie sent Deputy Chief Pentz a handwritten card thanking him for his willingness to participate and facilitate the arranging for the fire department to be present at their 4<sup>th</sup> annual "Kids in the Kitchen Heath Fair" on March 28. The event is presented by the Junior League of Riverside and is geared towards helping children 5 to 12 live a healthy lifestyle. This year the event took place on Main Street Downtown. She said it was their most successful fair to date.

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**Email from Renee Griffin April 14:** Congratulations! Thanks to everyone pitching in cans & bottles; we raised \$300 in March for the Botkin family. That is almost double the amount we raised last month, so keep up the recycling efforts.

Dawn and I have recycling through the city and once we started saving our drink cans/bottles separately, we were very surprised at how many we accumulate each month. So please bring them in from home too.

You are all AWESOME!!!! Renee

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**Email from Jim Weaver on Fri April 24:** Donna saw the neurologist last Tuesday. He says the balance problem is definitely NOT Parkinson's. He thinks it may be an inner ear problem. Has ordered a new MRI with special procedures and views. He also thinks she is a candidate for "gamma knife" which is a kind of radiation to clear up some of the remaining tumor. We also got word this week that the assistance we asked for, for the \$3000 per month shot, of which Medicare will pay 75% has been granted. They will pay 100% of our co-pay.

Glad tax season is over again, got a twenty year award. Business was down about 10% for me- the company was down about 15%- the IRS was down about 14%. So I guess I had a pretty good year-enough to buy gasoline for the MH for a few trips. Now all I have to do is get caught up on all the little chores around the house. Got the gate rebuilt this week so we can get the MH out of the backyard. Lots of weeds left and I've got to find out what's wrong with the sprinklers.

See ya' soon. Love from both of us. Donna and Jim ([jwanddw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jwanddw@sbcglobal.net))

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**Letter from Nicole Macarter (RPD Traffic Education Coordinator) on April 24:** Nicole thanked Chief Laycock for the fire department's participation in the Poly High Every 15 Minute Program on March 11 and 12. She commended fire crews for doing an excellent job and praised John Peurifoy for his professionalism, courtesy, and commitment to the community in helping plan the event.

## CROCS Beach Volleyball



RFD Local 1067 was a local sponsor in the CROCS Professional Beach Volleyball Tournament. As a result many union members attended the event off duty on April 18 and 19. Downtown Station crews rotated at the event.



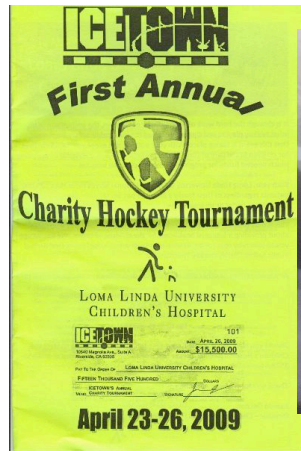
## Work Project Wednesday

Here are some photos from the Work Project Wednesday at the Botkin's House in March. Photos compliments of Tim Odebralski. Thanks to all who helped on this WPW project.



## Loma Linda Hockey Tournament

Tim Strack and Tim Odebralski participated on the Ontario Fire Ice Hockey Team in a charity tournament at Riverside's Ice Town April 23-26. The tournament benefited Loma Linda Medical Center. IceTown presented Loma Linda with a check for \$15,500. The Ontario Team had some stiff competition and ended up with a record of 1-3.



## Dispatcher Week

The week of April 13 was National Dispatcher Week. Fire Administration and the Union provided a BBQ for Dispatchers. John Peurifoy encouraged RFD members to take a moment to appreciate what the dispatchers do for us. Last year there were over 800,000 calls in and out of the center. There are only 29 full-time and about 10 part-time dispatchers. They work in the busiest division in the city with 12-hour shifts and no windows. They work up to 48 hours a month mandatory overtime (some less, some more) They are the backbone of our department during an emergency. If you think about it without our 911 dispatchers, we would have no place to go .



## Gracie's Adoption

If any of you support the Riverside Humane Society, you may have seen a special Akita named Elaine that lived at the Adoption Center since she was about 10 months old. Almost a year later, Elaine (now Gracie) has found a "forever home" with Nick Faraclos' brother, Kurt, and his family in the Mission Grove area. Gracie was born with a birth defect in one of her front legs. She moves around on three legs, but the folks at the Humane Society knew that her "good" front leg would become injured eventually given her large size. Dr. Davis and the vets helped fit Gracie with a "wheelchair" for her torso to relieve the weight from her front legs, so they were very particular in helping find the right home for Gracie. Thanks to Kurt and his wife Crystal.



## Growing Families



Kaydence Keseloff, daughter of Trevor Keseloff (7B) and his wife, was born at 2108 on April 24. Weighed 7lbs 4oz and was 18" long.

Todd LeSieur and his wife welcomed the birth of their third child on April 30. Their new son weighed 7lbs 14oz. His name was not available at time of publication.

Chris and Amanda Naron are the proud parents of their first child. Elizabeth Ann Naron, Born on April 7, 2009, 7lbs 8 oz

## May Birthdays

Greg Bluma	5/26
Rand Brinkman	5/27
David Castaneda	5/20
Chuck Clements	5/14
Mike Esparza	5/9
Mike Estrada	5/29
Dustin Fenzke	5/26
Veronica (Roni) Forst	5/4
Tony Garcia	5/17
Steve Hallgren	5/21
Pat Hopkins	5/17
Trevor Keseloff	5/4
Todd LeSieur	5/28
Tim Odebralski	5/21
Tony Perna	5/3
Roberto Redondo	5/12
Steve Schlom	5/15
Peter Sellas	5/13
Mike Staley	5/26
Matt Stibal	5/8



## Dispatcher Awards

On April 16, Public Safety Dispatchers Cassandra Gutierrez and Angie Soria were honored by the California Public Safety Radio Association. Cassandra received 2009 "Outstanding Performance by an Individual EMS Incident". On Oct 11, 2008, Cassie provided EMD protocol instructions to an anxious husband who had called 911 reporting his wife was ready to deliver her baby; the baby was delivered by the husband/father prior to the arrival of the first emergency medical crew.

Angie was selected as Dispatcher of the Year for her outstanding work as a Senior Dispatcher, Communication Training Officer, certified Emergency Medical Dispatcher, Lead Dispatcher, and a Tactical Team Dispatcher in the Riverside Public Safety Communications Center (in 2008 the Center received over 830,000 phone calls). In addition to all these roles, Angie also volunteered for various community and educational programs and researched alternative staffing/scheduling plans to assist in reducing overtime in the center.



Interim Fire Chief Steve Early and Deputy Chief Oran Pentz attended the awards dinner. Congratulations to Cassandra and Angie on their achievements. Cassandra and Angie were presented with certificates of recognition from the City on April 14.



PHOTO ALBUM

